

Ex/CBCS/ENG/UG/Core/3.1/2024

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2024

(2nd Year, 3rd Semester)

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

PAPER : UG/Core/3·1

(Classical and Medieval Literature)

Time : Two Hours

Full Marks : 30

*Answer **any three** questions taking at least one from each group.*

All questions carry equal marks.

GROUP—A

1. Write short notes on **any two** :
Parabasis, Agon, The Theatre of Dionysus, The Bronze Age, Solon's democratic reforms
2. Does *The Iliad* present glorification of war or its condemnation? Discuss with reference to the text.
3. How far is Dionysus's growing maturity in *Frogs* intrinsically related to the resurrection of a dying Athens and his eventual recognition as the God of comedy?

ENG-301

[Turn Over]

(2)

4. Comment on the archaic language of the chorus and the actors in Aeschylus's *Agamemnon*.
5. Plautus tells a romantic story by using a farcical plot structure in his play *Casina*. How far do you agree with this statement? Discuss with close reference to the text.
6. How and for what purpose does Herodotus's *Histories* use anthropological relativism born of the awareness of other cultures and customs?

GROUP—B

7. What problems does the *Beowulf*-poet face in presenting a pre-Christian narrative from a Christian viewpoint? How successful is he in solving these problems in the course of the poem?
8. Show how the behaviour of the woman in *The Knight with the Sword* justifies the negative comments made about her gender by both the poet and Gawain.
9. Examine the status of *The Book of Mandeville* as the summa of travel lore chronicling most, if not all, the opposing religious, political and economic concerns of its age.

(3)

10. Can the General Prologue to *The Canterbury Tales* be characterized as estate satire? Discuss.
11. Critically examine the poet's representation of Gawain with close reference to the text of *Gawain and The Green Knight*.

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